

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please substitute the enclosed eight (8) sheets of drawings depicting FIGS. 1-5 and 8-10 for FIGS. 1-5 and 8-10 currently on file.

Attachment: Eight (8) sheets of replacement drawings

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. The drawings, specification and claims 1-8 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner objected to the drawings, stating that the drawings of FIG. 1 must be separately labeled. Applicant has re-labeled FIGS. 1-5 and 8-10, showing each of the enlarged views as a separate Figure. The specification has been amended accordingly.

The Examiner objected to the claims, and required that the reference numbers be removed or placed in parentheses. Applicant has amended the claims to remove the reference numbers.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 USC 102 as being unpatentable over Price. Applicant respectfully traverses.

None of the reinforcing strips disclosed by Price or any of

the cited references can be practically folded into halves (that is, into equal width), and a method for placing a reinforcing strip which is folded in halves have never been used prior to the filing of the present application.

It is not a simple task to modify the strip of the apparatus disclosed by Price '571 so that it is folded in the lengthwise direction, since the material of the reinforcing strip is too hard to be bent easily.

Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the strips of the apparatus disclosed by Price '571 such that they would include a folding grooves and be folded the lengthwise direction.

The major features and advantages of the subject invention are to facilitate the installation of a reinforcing strip, to prevent the sagging of a reinforcing strip and to improve the durability of a reinforcing strip.

The front end of the reinforcing strip, which is folded

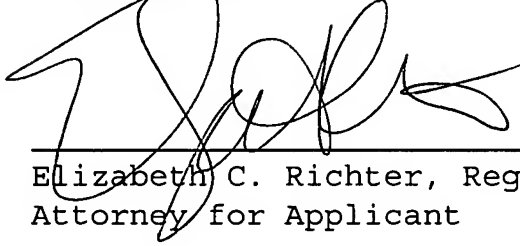
into halves, is directly inserted into the reinforcing strip insertion groove formed in the block to prevent the sagging of the reinforcing strip, and thus the process for tightening the reinforcing strip is not necessary. Further, the rear end of the reinforcing strip is folded into halves and erected such that the reinforcing strip can exert more firm supporting force.

Therefore, a method for placing the reinforcing strip of the subject invention, thereby improves the constructing efficiency and durability and reduces material costs and labor costs. This enables the present invention to be capable of economically constructing a reinforced earth wall.

Applicant also submits herewith pages from a two catalogues, showing the strip of the present invention, as well as an English translation of the catalogue page. As shown in this catalogue, the folded part of the reinforcing strip has a small cross section and thus prevents making the connecting groove too deep. The corresponding Korean patent application has been granted as Korean Patent No. 660356.

The features of claims 1-8 are not taught or suggested by the cited reference. Accordingly, Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures:

Eight (8) sheets of replacement drawings (FIGS. 1-5 and 8-10)
Catalogue pages

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 2, 2007.



Amy Klein